

Message Text

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20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01 DRC-01 SAJ-01 /128 W

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R 080505Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6532

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMCONSUL UDORN

CDR USSAG NKP

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 7612

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, LA

SUBJECT: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND KING'S COUNCIL ADJOURNED

1. ON AFTERNOON NOVEMBER 7, KING PRESIDED OVER CEREMONIES
CLOSING SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND KING'S
COUNCIL.

2. KING'S BRIEF DISCOURSES TO BOTH ASSEMBLY AND COUNCIL DWELT
WITH DIFFERENT EMPHASES ON AGREEMENTS AND NEGOTIATION WITH LPF.
IN SPEECH WRITTEN BY GOVERNMENT FOR DELIVERY TO ASSEMBLY, KING
OBSERVED THAT LACK OF PROGRESS IN TALKS WITH LPF ON FORMATION
OF NEW PGNU MADE IT UNFEASIBLE TO EXTEND CURRENT ASSEMBLY SESSION
FURTHER BUT AN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION COULD BE HELD IF
DEVELOPMENTS MADE THIS NECESSARY. SPEECH CONCLUDED BY EXPRESSING
PLEASURE THAT ASSEMBLY HAD ACCEPTED LAO AGREEMENT AND PROTOCOL
"WHICH WILL PERMIT FORMATION OF PGNU IN CONFORMITY WITH SPIRIT
OF NATIONAL CONSTITUTION."

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3. IN HIS REMARKS TO COUNCIL, WHICH REPRESENT VIEWS OF THRONE, KING EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF CEASEFIRE, PROSPECTS FOR NATIONAL RECONCILIATION, AND, ESPECIALLY, THAT LAO PEOPLE THEMSELVES HAD FOUND A "SEPARATE SOLUTION" TO PROBLEM OF LAOS, APART FROM FOREIGN INFLUENCE. HE MADE ONLY PASSING REFERENCE TO "HAPPY INTENTIONS EXPRESSED IN RECENT AGREEMENT."

4. COMMENT: TWO POINTS IN KING'S STATEMENTS ARE PARTICULARLY NOTABLE. SPEECH TO ASSEMBLY, DRAFTED BY GOVERNMENT, CARRIED SOME FREIGHT FOR PRIME MINISTER IN HIS SEARCH FOR ASSEMBLY APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT AND PROTOCOL, WITH REMARK THAT "ASSEMBLY HAD ACCEPTED" THOSE ACCORDS. THIS GOES BEYOND STRICT CONSTRUCTION OF RESOLUTION PASSED BY ASSEMBLY ON NOVEMBER 6, BUT IT IS CLEARLY INTERPRETATION PRIME MINISTER WANTS TO PROMULGATE AND NATIONALLY BROADCAST SPEECH TO ASSEMBLY BY KING WAS GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO. SECONDLY, IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT KING IN HIS OWN ADDRESS CLEARLY OUTLINED VIEW THAT SOLUTION IN LAOS NEED NOT, IN FACT MUST NOT, BE TIED TO DEVELOPMENTS ELSEWHERE IN INDOCHINA. THIS IS VIEW, OF COURSE, PRIME MINISTER ALSO SHARES.
WHITEHOUSE

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